

Students join faculty in protesting budget cuts

By CHRIS MANGEN

Since Sept. 21, a small group of faculty members has been walking along Dodge Street in front of UNO to draw attention to the plight of the "UNO 21."

Until Christmas break, a group of professors walked each weekday morning from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and at first, the walks drew a lot of media coverage. But coverage waned as the walks continued, and lately the group had been walking just a couple of mornings each week.

Last week, a new twist was added to the walks. Judy Stribley, a UNO graduate student and member of Students for Quality Education, had people distribute flyers inviting students to attend a walk on Saturday.

About 20 students and 20 faculty members showed up, Stribley said. Also present were representatives from the local media, including two TV stations.

That will help accomplish the goal of Stribley and the others. "What we're trying to do is make ourselves visible to the regents and the public," she said. She said she was pleased with both the turnout and public reaction to the walk.

"It was quite impressive; a lot of people (on Dodge Street) stopped and waved and paid attention to what was going on," Stribley said. Students and faculty members walked and carried signs protesting proposed faculty cuts. Some wore "Save the UNO 21" buttons, though the number of faculty members to be cut has been revised to 19.

The regents Jan. 14 approved a plan to cut 19.25 faculty positions to pay for faculty raises ordered by the Commission on Industrial Relations. UNO officials revised the recommendations for cuts after the regents objected to the earlier plan because it included non-faculty members in the proposed cuts.

Though many of the positions recommended for elimination are already vacant, seven faculty will have to be terminated. Lynne Marshall, who holds one of the positions that may be eliminated in the Teaching the Hearing Impaired program, provides audiology training for students in the speech pathology program. If Marshall is fired, according to department officials, pending accreditation may be jeopardized.

Effects of cuts in other departments may not be as severe, but some classes will be eliminated and others will be harder to get into, according to Bernard Kolasa, head of the Save the UNO 21 committee.

He said as students learn more about how the proposed cuts will affect education at UNO, they will begin to protest more.



Kenneth Jarecke

On the march . . . Three supporters of quality education walk along Dodge street in front of UNO Saturday. An estimated 40 people attended the walk.

"Up to now, it's been kind of quiet among the students," he said.

Kolasa said he was a bit surprised at the student turnout for the walk Saturday. "We were very pleased with the fact that there were so many students out," he said.

"There are some students that are very active, very interested," said Stribley. Unfortunately, she said, there are many more who "really aren't very well-informed."

She hopes students will become better informed and attend future walks. "Numbers mean a lot to elected officials," she

said. The next walk is planned for Feb. 1 at the Peter Kiewit Conference Center, 1313 Farnam On The Mall, at noon. Another is tentatively planned for Feb. 11.

Stribley said members of Students for Quality Education also plan to encourage students to attend public hearings on programs recommended for reductions or elimination. The hearings will be held Feb. 17 in Lincoln at 8 a.m. in Regents Hall, and in Omaha at 1:10 p.m. in the UNO Student Center.

"All they have to do is sit there; they don't have to anything but show an interest," Stribley said.

Final vote could come next week

Bill to raise drinking age puts politicians on 'soap box'

By HENRY CORDES

With the cases of traffic fatalities attributed to intoxicated drivers, drinking and its abuse is an emotional issue. It is also a hot political issue.

With the introduction of Legislative Bill 56 (LB 56), Nebraska has joined the states pushing for higher drinking ages. Currently before the State Legislature, LB 56 would raise the state's drinking age from 20 to 21.

LB 56 received first-round approval from the Unicameral two weeks ago by a 2-1 margin. The bill was due to have its second reading Tuesday, with the final vote coming as early as next week. Gov. Kerrey said he will sign the bill if it reaches his desk. The law would then become effective Jan. 1, 1985.

"LB 56 is a sign of the times," said Russ Kelly, owner of the Music Box bar in Omaha. "It's a nice soap box for politicians to stand on."

Sen. William Nichol, speaker of the Unicameral, and one of two senators to introduce LB

56, said public support for raising the drinking age is running between 70 and 75 percent. Most senators supporting the bill say they see the bill as a step toward reducing the number of drinking-related road fatalities in the state.

Sen. Howard Peterson of Grand Island, who co-introduced the bill with Nichol, said there is evidence to back the claim. He said 20-year-olds comprised 18.2 percent of Nebraskans charged with driving while intoxicated. The figure drops to 15.7 percent for 21-year-olds and 13.7 percent for 19-year-olds.

"That is the peak age group. It's clear that this a group we need to cover," Peterson said.

Peterson said he felt the law would lower the traffic fatality rate as it did when the drinking age was raised from 19 years to 20 years in 1980. "I think that if it saves two or three lives in the state of Nebraska, it is worthwhile," he said.

The arguments against the bill make it a subject of debate. Those who want to drink will, opponents say.

"What it will do is drive them from bars into cars with a six-pack," said Kelly, who owns two other Omaha bars and a package liquor store. He is president of the Omaha-Douglas County Retail Liquor Dealers and serves on the board of directors of the Nebraska Licensed Beverage Association.

Others questioned whether the law would even be obeyed. "You can't take away something in this country that you've already given people," said Matt Markel, owner of Omaha's Ranch Bowl. "If kids want to drink, they're going to drink. I don't think the law will make

any difference."

Nichols said he has problems with that sort of reasoning. "I've heard that longer than you've been alive," he said. "Yes, those determined to drink will drink. I know that will happen with some, but most people obey the law and that's true with 20-year-olds, too."

Any other argument against raising the drinking age is that others will let 20-year-olds drink if Nebraska won't. Opponents contend underage drinkers would go to other states to purchase liquor and thereby increase the chance for alcohol-related traffic deaths.

Omahans can go to Council Bluffs, where the drinking age is 19. Wyoming also has a drinking age of 19 and in Colorado, South Dakota and Kansas 18-year-olds can purchase beer with a 3.2 percent alcohol content. Missouri is the only state bordering Nebraska with a drinking age of 21 for all types of alcohol.

Kelly said statistics show 60 percent of Nebraskans live within driving range of a state with a lower drinking age. "We're simply going to send people to Council Bluffs," he said. "It's hard to believe people will stay home. They'll go to Council Bluffs. I don't regret not making money, but it's silly to chase people across the river."

An amendment to raise the drinking age to 21 in Nebraska on Jan. 1, 1986, was defeated 26-22. The prerequisite was that surrounding states raise their drinking age first.

Peterson said that there are movements in nearly all bordering states to raise the drinking age to 21. "I would hope that Iowa would follow our lead as soon as we get it passed," he said.

"It's hard to believe people will stay home. They'll go to Council Bluffs . . . it's silly to chase people across the river."

—Bar owner Russ Kelly

"Yes, those determined to drink will drink. I know that will happen with some, but most people obey the law and that's true with 20-year-olds, too." —Sen. William Nichol

Kelly said Nebraskans should be prepared to wait. He said that if all states in the nation but one were to comply with a drinking age of 21, Iowa would be the last holdout. He said Iowa makes revenue from state-owned liquor stores. Revenue was down last year, Kelly said, particularly in border cities where Iowans could cross to avoid the state markup.

Both supporters and opponents agree there are other measures that can and should be taken to reduce the incidence of intoxication among young drivers.

Peterson and Kelly said the first is education in the schools. Peterson said alcohol education programs have already begun in many Nebraska school systems. Kelly said stricter enforcements, including harsher penalties for driving while intoxicated, is also needed.

"I personally have nothing against a 21 drinking age, but I don't think it will solve the problem," Kelly said. "The guy that gets in his car that is too drunk to drive is dangerous for all of us," he said.

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West: faculty exodus possible if Legislature stalls raises again

By HENRY
CORDES

Of all the issues before the State Legislature as it opened its 1984 session this month, faculty salaries in the University of Nebraska system could be among the most critical.

Sen. William Nichol, speaker of the unicameral, said this would be the year for faculty raises because the money is available.



West

"They should be raised, but I don't know how much," he said.

Nichol said Gov. Kerrey wants to base the raises on performance rather than tenure. However, he said, faculty members are reluctant to undergo testing and evaluations for such a purpose.

In his budget bill delivered before the Legislature Jan. 6, Kerrey recommended 8 percent salary increases for state employees. The Legislature can accept the recommendation, but is free to set raises higher or lower than that figure.

The Legislature denied university faculty members raises during the 1983-84 academic year. They provided a 2½ percent raise the year before.

Some university officials and employees said they wonder whether the Legislature can go another year without significantly raising salaries, and warn of negative consequences that could result from another year of frozen salaries.

"What's going to happen is there's going to be a mass exodus of faculty," said Janet West,

president of the UNO Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), a faculty bargaining unit.

"It makes absolutely no sense in the long-range point of view. The cream of the faculty will start looking, and I know a number of good faculty members that are looking right now."

West said the University has recognized that UNO salaries are below what they are at comparable schools, but said the governor's proposal "does not recognize that kind of reality." Considering the raises of the past two years, she said, a raise of at least 12 percent is in order for 1984-85.

Don Skeahan, acting liaison between UNO and the Legislature, agreed that state senators need to show some support for the university employees and provide the university with competitive salaries.

Besides causing some faculty members to look elsewhere, he said, another year without a significant raise could have a "demoralizing" effect on those who remain, and diminish the university's ability to attract new employees.

Regent Kermit Hansen of Omaha agreed that salaries are very important. "Yes sir, we have said so for the last four years," he said. But he called the predictions of a faculty exodus "a little bit hollow." Hansen said, "I understand the emotion, but I can't accept the full logic. We are not the only state facing this type of thing. Certainly we don't want to lose our good faculty, he added. "We want to see our faculty properly recognized and properly compensated."

Hansen said he would like to see a raise of at least 10 percent for UNO faculty.

"On the basis of what I see, I'm afraid that's unlikely," he said. "I'd be happy if we could get 8 percent, but it won't move it far to the level I'd like to see."

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Professor formed court for the ordinary person'

By CINDY GONZALEZ

A small-but-fiery young lawyer traveled to Nebraska 20 years ago and took his place among the faculty and staff at the UNO College of Business Administration.

After only a few years in residence and a study of the state's judiciary system, he discovered a major flaw in the system which no one had confronted before. He gathered together a small army of people primarily students, and began to prepare for what he thought would be a long and hard battle against an intimidating and complicated Nebraska court system.

When it was all over, he won a victory which proved to be a giant step forward for the average person. It could have been called the landmark case of "Little Man vs. the System."

The lawyer, Frank S. Forbes, will go down in Nebraska history as the initiator of Legislative Bill 1032, which on Jan. 1, 1973 laid out the structure of the Small Claims Court in Nebraska.

"The Court (small claims) is for the ordinary person who is not trained in the law," said Forbes. The person possibly could afford an attorney, he said, but this would be an undue hardship on him. He added that the Court was for someone who "wants some relief in a short time."

When a claim is \$1000 or less, Small Claims Court is an alternative to formal court, said Forbes. It is considered an informal court which handles small disputes.

Before the Court was implemented, 66 percent of all claims filed by individuals in the municipal courts in Omaha could have been filed in small claims court, thus avoiding extra fees, and extra time, according to a three-month study of all cases filed in the Omaha Municipal Court in 1971.

These figures do not mention the vast numbers of cases that were not filed due to the inadequate compensation the court could offer.

The principle argument given in support of Small Claims Court, said Forbes, is that in many instances it would cost more to recover a claim through regular litigation than the claim itself is worth. For instance, Forbes said, if someone had a claim for less than \$400, it would take one-half to one-third of it to employ an attorney even when the liability is clear. And, as indicated by informal interviews with court personnel, laymen rarely attempted to act without an attorney before the adoption of small claims, said Forbes.

In response to the problem, Forbes designed the Small Claims Court so an individual can represent himself.

Today, "The only attorney in the courtroom is the judge," said Forbes.

Also, before the Court was available, one had to seek justice through regular litigation which consisted of technicalities that put many plaintiffs at a disadvantage, Forbes said.

Before coming to UNO 20 years ago, Forbes served as clerk to the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court where he had experience drafting and writing opinions for the court.

In planning the Small Claims Court system, Forbes said he took the best parts from other states' small claims courts and put together what he calls "the best in the nation." He added that the court serves as a model for many states.

"Everyone wanted it," Forbes said, "we literally had thousands of people backing the bill including liberals and conservatives both," he said.

"My students were my biggest help in pushing the bill through the Legislature," said Forbes. "They learned a lot about fighting for what you want."

Not long ago, Forbes was asked if weaknesses exist in the Small Claims Court.

Forbes said the inavailability of adequate legal guidance to advise small claims parties on the correct procedures need to be improved.

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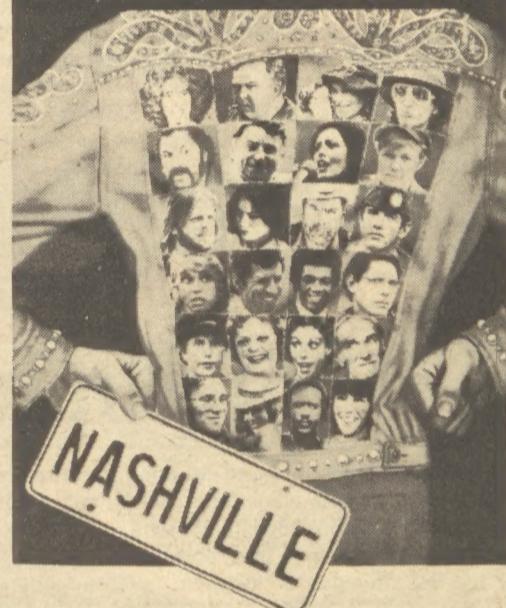


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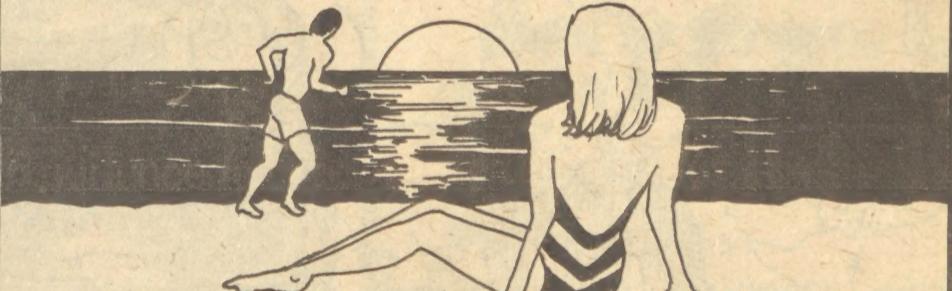
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Comment —

Getting involved

UNO students have often been described as apathetic, and probably rightly so. But last Saturday, 20 or so students showed up on a frigid morning to protest budget cuts.

Organizers of the walk, held 10 a.m. in front of the Eppley Building along Dodge Street, said they think students are just becoming aware of what the cuts could mean: fewer classes to choose from, fewer instructors, less credible programs.

Sure, 20 out of about 15,000 students who attend UNO isn't many, but the walk was organized at the last minute. The only notice given was by way of flyers handed out on campus Friday.

More walks are planned, and members of Students for Quality Education are urging students to attend public hearings about the elimination of programs to be held Feb. 17 on the UNO and UNL campuses.

The Regents would probably be impressed if a large number showed up. As Judy Stribley, who organized Saturday's walk, said, "numbers mean a lot to elected officials."

Speaking of protesters, the Citizens Action Association seems to get more organized as the battle over westward expansion drags on.

The first of many lawsuits threatened by the group was filed early this month by Frances Batt, president of the organization. She sued the regents and UNO Chancellor Del Weber in response to the purchase of a house at 312 S. Elmwood Rd.

The group's latest tactic is a newsletter sent out last week. It lists 10 of the group's points against expansion.

However, the newsletter could backfire on the group because of some ridiculously emotional appeals in the newsletter.

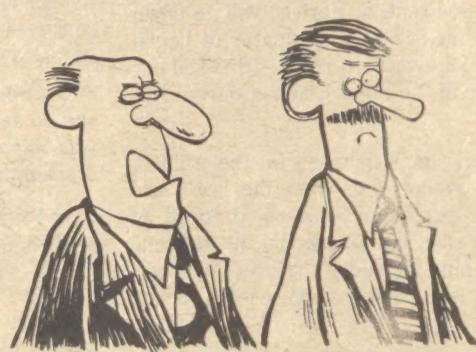
For example, under a picture of a smiling baby is the caption: What'll be left for her? And under point seven, the proposed destruction of homes is called "architectural granny-bashing."

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The Philosophicker By Jeffrey A. Kallman Brain Dead

For giving serious consideration to declaring justice officially in extremis across the continent last year, there were abundant reasons. Therefore, those who may have been poised to administer the last rites may be forgiven.

After all, it is a ludicrous task to request of the senses the acceptance of the verdict of a South Carolina judge who sentenced three convicted rapists to a choice between incarceration and castration. Assuming the three value their mobility with enough desperation to submit to the surgeon, what is then to prevent them from exacting revenge with weaponry other than the genitalia?

It is ludicrous again to hope for the acceptance of the Illinois judge who awarded a decree of divorce, then ordered the couple in question to maintain their common residence until their two children attain the legal age. That must have been the first time in the history of American courts that a divorcing couple was sentenced to stay together for the sake of the children.

Now, we have a judge in Arizona, who has seen fit to sentence a 19-year-old convicted of theft to a probation which requires him to read

entire books every month. He must further submit to his probation officer a qualified list of the books he has completed each month.

We may for the time being postpone the funeral of justice, although it would surprise very few to learn in, say, two months of a judge sentencing a convicted embezzler to serve in the House of Representatives. But what Jack T. Arnold of the Pima County Superior Court has done, is address a legitimate need of the societal order, without submission to either lüğüreti or condescension.

There is a requirement of reason to be fulfilled, namely: an implicit understanding that, should young Carl Whitehead see fit to commit a second theft, he should be assigned post haste, according to local prescription, to residence in the local clink. For the moment he is a fortunate man, having received a second chance and become beneficiary of what is potentially (and, not exclusively in Arizona) a great idea.

His Honour offered this explanation: "You know, so many of them go home and watch TV and sit around. They don't want to work. Most of these kids aren't criminals. They're just brain

dead." There is a semantic problem there — if I am correct, what he intended to say was, "They're just somnambulic," which suggests sleepwalking, which is entirely distinguishable from death.

There is as well a problem with generality. It is not true that "most of these kids" do not want to work, although certainly a larger than desirable number lack work. Some even succumb to the desire of sustaining the benevolence (budget circumstances permitting) of Mother and Dad. But for those who do work, another consideration is useful:

Suggest to many of them that they might invest their surplus capital elsewhere for amusement than the video parlour of the screening of the newest expression of juvenile libidinism devoid of thought or enduring wit, and you may as well suggest the flat tax to political machinists. But offer them admission to the next onstage exercise of phantasmagoric sadomasochism which such as AC/DC pass for rock 'n' roll, and they will behave as jubilantly as the Hebrews when the Red Sea swallowed their pursuers.

It should not be expected of Judge Arnold

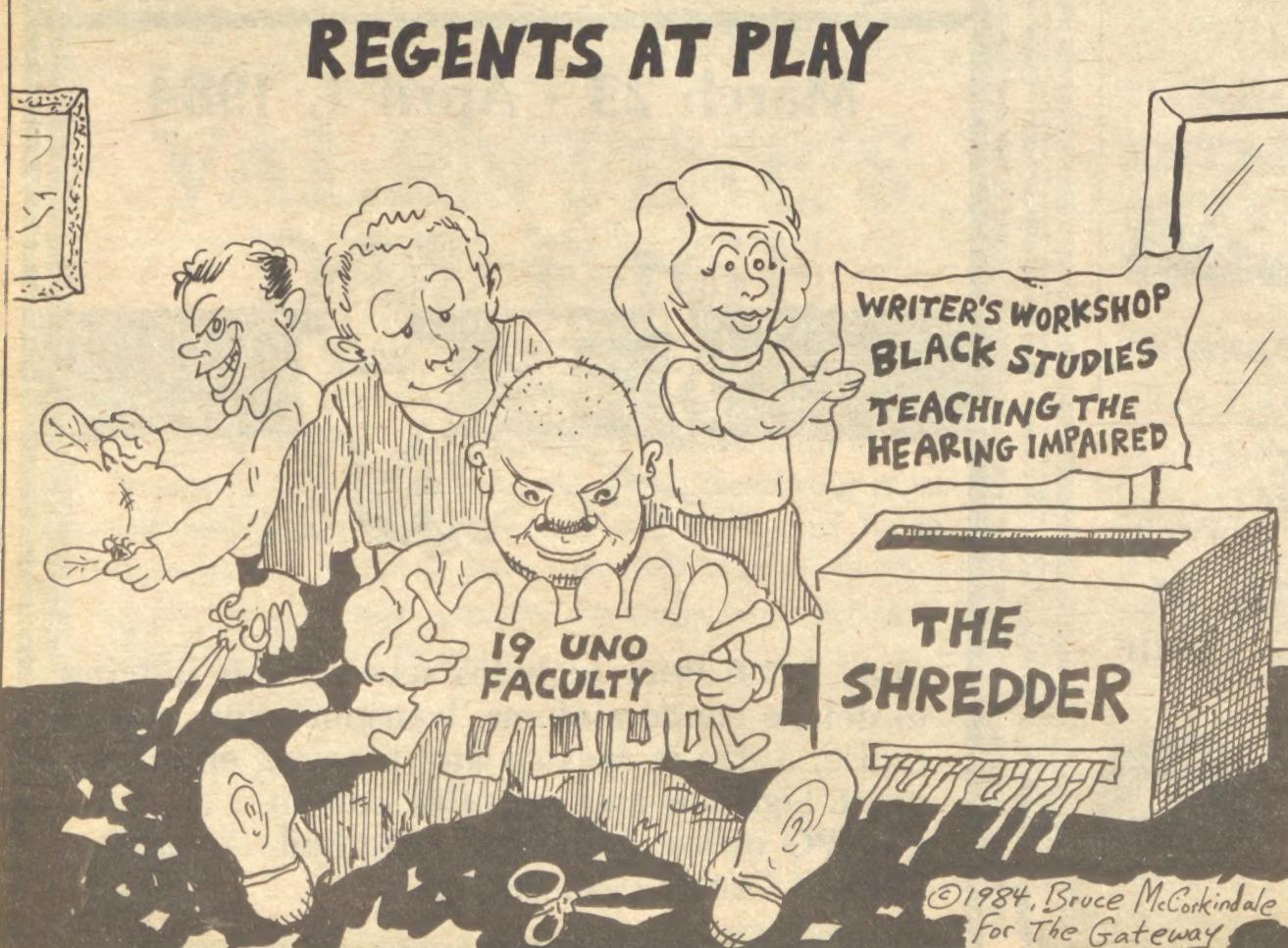
that he bear a thorough grounding in the fine arts or the enduring letters. Whether or not he can match wits with Martin Buber or E.B. White is of no consequence in dispensing justice. Should even Sandra Day O'Connor confess a craving for the music of Barry Manilow, it is proper to question her taste but improper to question her conjugation of the Constitution.

But probation offices are not trained by Lionel Trilling, either. Therefore, the question which remains is, what is Carl Whitehead to read to satisfy his obligation? Here, then, a suggestion:

Perhaps Judge Arnold might enlist the help of a qualified teacher in producing a list of viable titles. The boldness of his stroke cannot afford emasculation through a monthly accounting of Stephen King.

That would hamstring the salutary possibilities of the probation, and incite enough philistines to suggest that first offenders may now bargain their way out of the cage by reading "Truly Tasteless Jokes," or a given solipsistic jock biography. And those cannot have been the intended results when Judge Arnold inverted a cliché and threw the thief at the books.

REGENTS AT PLAY



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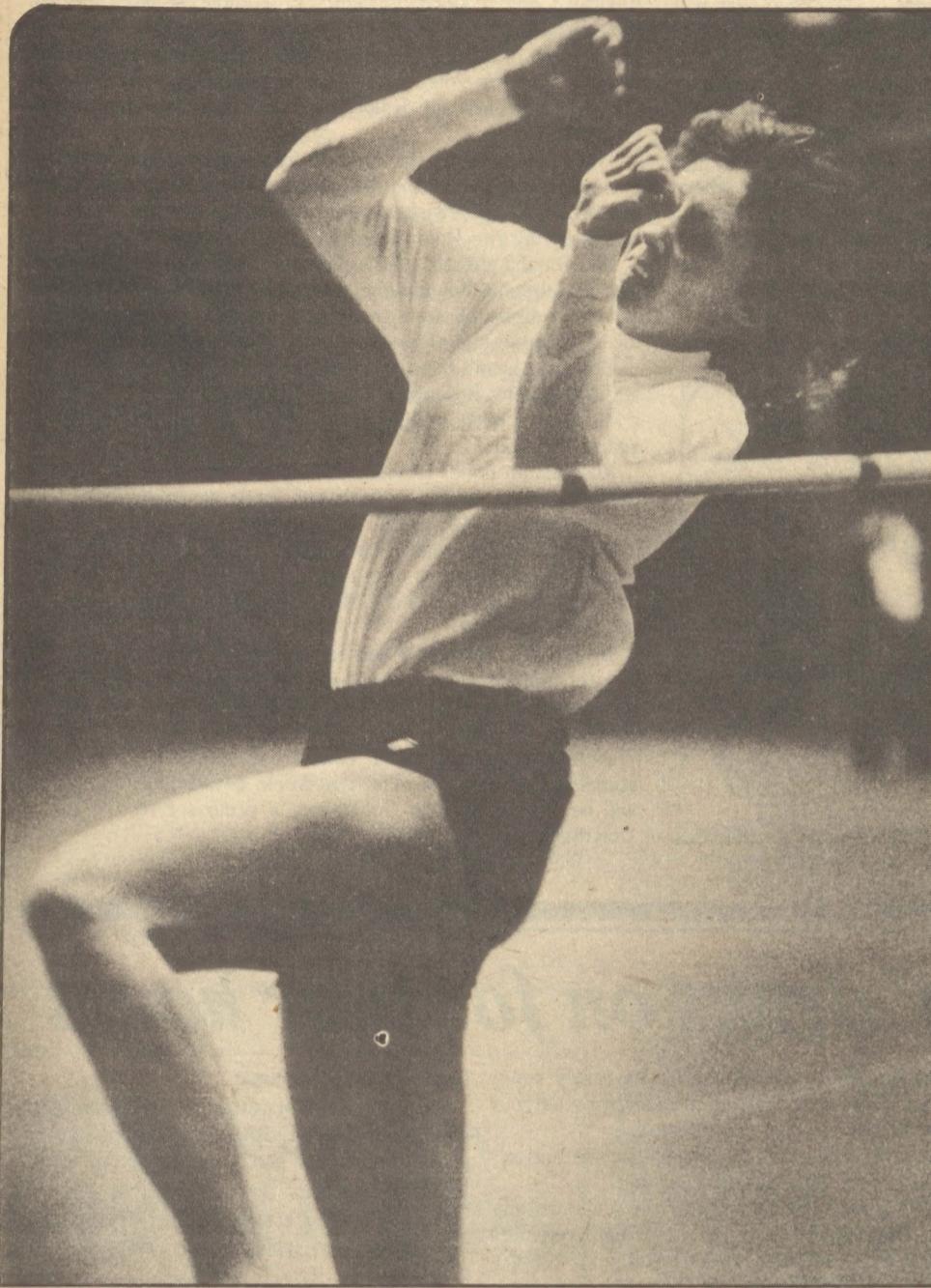
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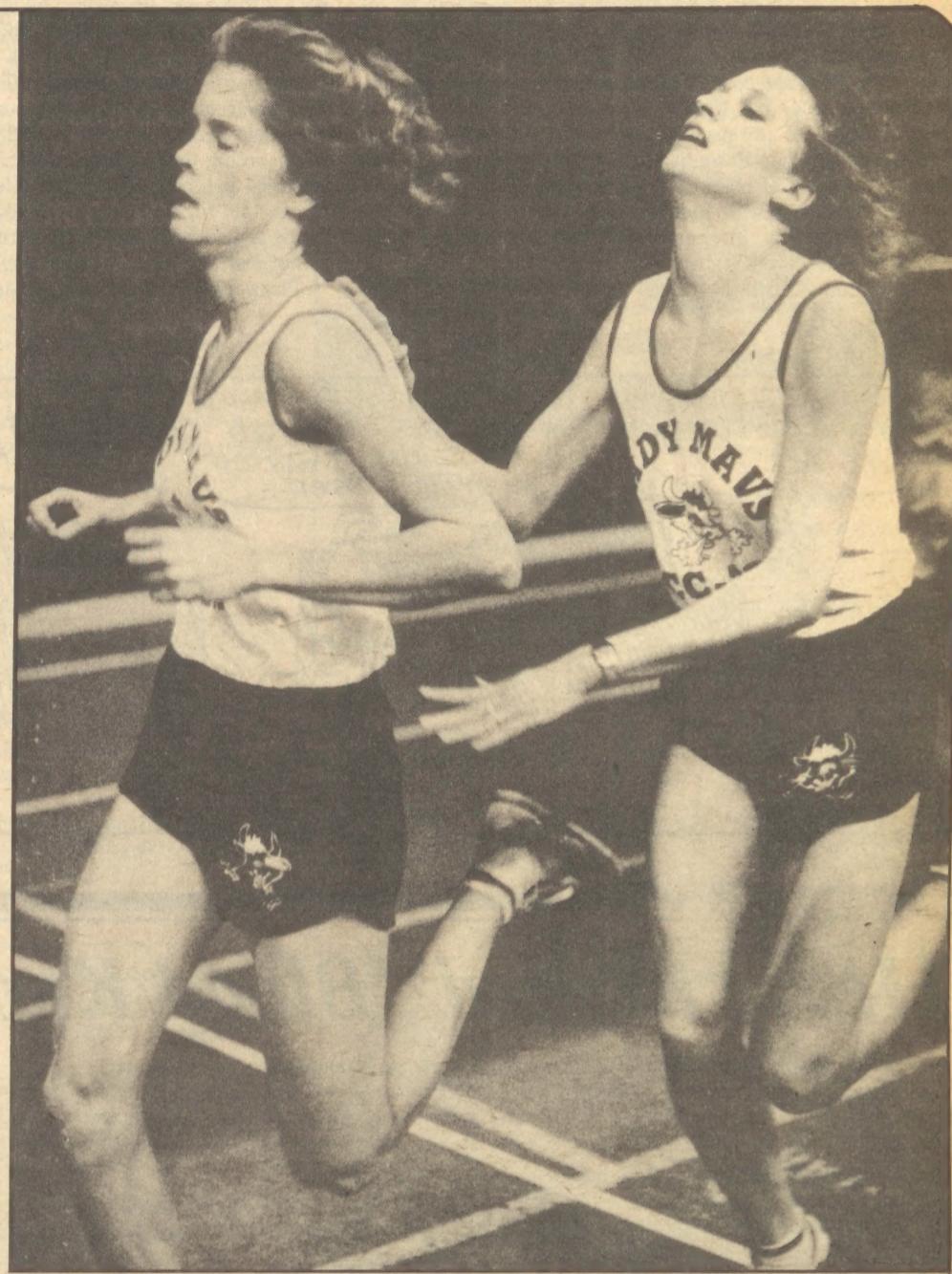
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Sports



Kenneth Jarecke

Up and away . . . UNO's Julie Gullet approaches the high bar at the triangular meet last Wednesday. She won the event, jumping 5' 3".



Kenneth Jarecke

Get going . . . UNO's Linda Elsasser and Janice Moreau finish first and second, respectively, in the mile against Midland and Concordia.

Women's track team must avoid injuries in run for title

After an injury-plagued season last year, women's indoor track Coach Bob Condon is optimistic this year's team can make a run for the conference championship.

UNO returns several key performers from last year's team that finished fourth in the North Central Conference.

"Six of the girls I'm not sweating at all about making Nationals," Condon said.

The six women Condon believes are national contenders are Kristy Bundy, Linda Elsasser, Julie Gullet, Zel Fowler, Cheryl Fonley, and Becky Wilson.

Bundy, a member of relay teams that have set four school records, ran close to her personal best at the team's first inter-squad

meet early in December.

Elsasser finished eighth in the 1500 meters at Nationals last year and holds the NCC record in the 1000 meters (2:57.98).

Gullet, a senior, is the co-holder of the school high jump record (5-7).

Fowler, one of nine freshmen on the team, ran the 800 in 2:18 at the inter-squad meet.

Fonley ran the 3000 in 10:11 (10:10 qualifies for Nationals) at the meet and holds three UNO records in distance events.

Wilson, who holds two NCC records, finished in the top 20 at Nationals last year in the 400.

"Our strength this season will probably be our middle and distance runners. We have

good people in every event so there will be no give-aways," Condon said.

UNO's first competition of the season came last Wednesday in a triangular meet with Midland and Concordia. The Lady Mavs outdistanced second-place Midland 68-49. Concordia scored 27.

UNO had some inspiration to beat Midland this season, said Condon. Midland claimed to have the best track team in the state, with the exception of UNL, after beating the Lady Mavs last year for the first time in 10 years.

UNO responded with six first-place finishes.

Elsasser won the mile with a 5:06 time, while teammates Janice Moreau and Sherry Crist finished second and fourth respectively.

Janice Pearson won the 60-yard hurdles in 8.95 seconds. Bundy and Fowler combined to take the 600- and 880-yard runs. Gullet won the high jump with a 5-3 effort.

Wilson and Gullet finished 1st and 2nd in the triple jump. Moreau won the 1000 with a 2:43 time.

Condon said UNO's performance at the meet makes him believe the team can finish in the top 15 in the nation. He hopes his team can duplicate the 1982 season when nine women qualified for Nationals.

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Unique NU course traces 'painful' Holocaust history

By CONNIE FOX

A course never taught at an American university will be offered at UNO and UNL this semester.

"Special Topics in Religion: The Holocaust," will deal with all aspects of genocide, concentrating on the murder of European Jews between 1939 and 1945.

"I don't know of any place in our region that offers a class like this," said Jonathan Rosenbaum, instructor of the course and associate professor of philosophy and religion at UNO. Rosenbaum, who specializes in Judaic studies, said the course will feature lectures by internationally-known scholars from throughout the United States.

He said students will be tested on the lecture and speaker

material and will have an oral history project such as talking with a Holocaust survivor. The attitudes of Germans today will also be explored, Rosenbaum said.

The course has a great deal of reading which is "painful, but fascinating," Rosenbaum said. The Holocaust "is not a very happy subject, but it deals with human emotion and the massacre of people because they were different," he added.

According to Rosenbaum, Nazis live today in Europe, South America and the United States. He said meetings are held where Nazis "get together and talk about the good old days. We have Nazis and we have survivors," Rosenbaum said. "The Holocaust is not just history, but current events."

Plans for the course began last summer when a university

committee established a permanent academic position on the Holocaust and modern Judaism. The committee is chaired by Hans Brisch, executive assistant to NU President Ronald Roskens; Harry Allen, director of institutional research and planning at UNL; and Ivan Volgyes, professor of political science at UNL. Volgyes will teach the Holocaust course at UNL on Tuesday evenings.

"The real seed of the idea for the course came from the Society of Survivors," said Rosenbaum. The Society of Survivors is a local group of Jewish people who survived the concentration camps during the Holocaust.

The Omaha chapter of the Society of Survivors, the University of Nebraska Foundation, the Jewish Foundation of Lincoln, and the Nebraska Committee on Humanities have donated funds for this course and other projects related to the Holocaust.

The class hasn't been offered before due to the cost of bringing in speakers, Rosenbaum said. "If the funds are available and if the interest of the people is there, then the class will be offered again," he said.

Rosenbaum hopes to videotape most of the lectures. Then if interest in the course is high but funds are unavailable, the lectures can be reshown.

Prior to the first class, Rosenbaum said he expected the class would attract a variety of students from both graduate and undergraduate studies. He also anticipated that a number of clergy would attend.

By Jan. 16, 38 people had registered for the class. An even greater number were on hand for the first class. "I don't know the exact number, but 50 or 60 people or more turned out for the class," Rosenbaum said.

Rosenbaum said a similar course will be offered to graduate students this summer. The two-week, two-credit-hour course will be taught by Eric Goldhagen, a professor from Harvard University.

BIG MAX ON CAMPUS



Drama

'Heavy handed' 'Blood Knot' drags on for four hours

By PATTI DALE

Strong performances were nullified by the four-hour playing time of "The Blood Knot" presented at UNO Jan. 19, 20 and 21.

Despite the surprising amount of humor director Janice Collins Brooks was able to plumb from the Athol Fugard script, heavy-handed symbolism and speech-like exposition caused the play to drag.

"The Blood Knot" examines racism through the experiences of two brothers living in a South African shanty during the 1960's.

Morris, the educated older brother, is half-white. He is forced to confront the guilt and hostility he feels toward his black brother.

Rod Freeman did an admirable job portraying

Morris as an anguished, confused man.

Freeman's vehemence could be felt by the audience. However, so could his anticipation of his next expression and his occasional tendency to overact.

Harry Eure's confidence and familiarity with the stage were apparent in his performance as the younger brother.

His interpretation of Zachariah as a swaggering macho stud seemed out of place in scenes where the character was insecure and afraid.

Climactic scenes between the characters lacked impact because the audience had never been convinced these men would really hurt one another.

In Fugard's play the characters rarely converse. Freeman and Eure interacted by listening intently to the other's dialogue.

For the most part, Brooks focused attention well through lighting and blocking.

The actors' backs were to the audience an annoying number of times, however. Even the performers seemed uncomfortable directing their words to the rear of the stage.

Corrugated metal and wooden strutting formed the walls of the set. Everything in the room was placed at an angle. The effect was disturbing, as if the world were a little dizzy.

While this created a mood of jarring discord, the set was also at times overpowering and detracted from the action onstage. Arranging the pattern of light in jagged stripes contrib-

uted to the atmosphere.

Costumes did not reflect the poverty of the characters. On the other hand, props like the dented metal cups and plates made the set believable.

Approximately a third of the audience left before the conclusion of the play Saturday night.

"The Blood Knot" is not excused from involving the audience in moving theatrical experience merely because it has something valid to say.

The first production of a Fugard play at UNO demonstrated the abilities of Freeman and Eure, but did not endear the playwright to most of those who say "The Blood Knot."

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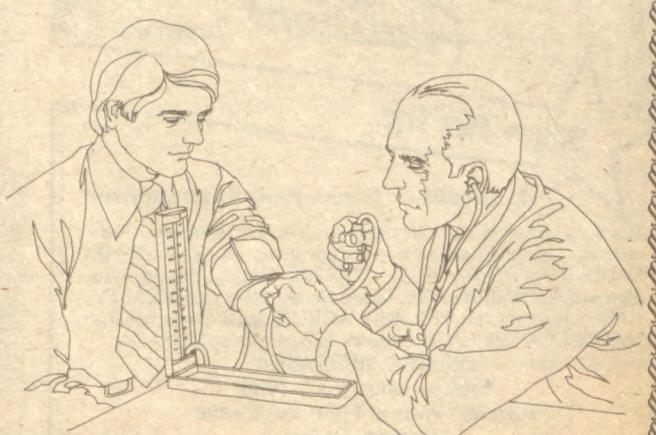
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Keys' hot hand leads Mavericks to wins

The 12th-ranked UNO basketball team extended their winning streak to seven games with weekend road wins over St. Cloud State and Mankato State.

Sophomore Rick Keys paced the Mavs in their 75-55 and 72-62 wins over St. Cloud and Mankato respectively. He had his best weekend as a Maverick, scoring 20 points against the Huskies and a career-high 27 against Mankato.

The wins kept UNO atop the North Central Conference standings with a 6-0 record, 13-3 overall.

The Mavs' Saturday night victory over Mankato was played without the services of all-NCC center Terry Sodawasser. The 6'9" junior was forced to sit out with an injured ankle.

But the 6'3" Keys made up for his absence. He hit his first 11 shots from the field and finished the game 12 for 13.

UNO held an early 10 point lead, but Mankato fought back to within one point, 19-18, midway through the first half.

Mankato tied the game early in the second half on a pair of Doug Kraay free throws. Keys responded to the 17th-ranked Mankato's threat by connecting on four straight shots from the field in a 1:19 span, stretching UNO's lead to 50-39. The Mavs were in control the rest of the way.

UNO shot 60 percent from the field, their best showing of the season. Mankato hit 43 percent.

In the previous night's game against St. Cloud, UNO built a 17-point lead early in the first half. Keys, Sodawasser and Rickey Suggs led the scoring spree with six points each.

UNO's press held the Huskies to just two field goals in the first eight minutes. But UNO Head Coach Bob Hanson was concerned, despite his team's sharp shooting in the first half.

"I was a little afraid that we might let up the second half," he told reporters after the game. "But I was pleased with our play. St. Cloud played hard on us and didn't let up either. But our players stayed with their game."

The Huskies pulled to within 13 points early in the second half, hitting three unanswered baskets. But St. Cloud would come no closer as Suggs and Dean Thompson made quick buckets after the Huskies' rush to secure the UNO win.

Sodawasser injured his ankle and was replaced by Dan Rust in the second half. Rust scored seven points and grabbed four rebounds.

Other injured Mavs include Jeff Fichtel, who has a sore back, and Dwayne King, who has a shoulder injury after falling on ice.

Wrestlers finish 3rd, prepare for NCC tournament

The UNO Maverick wrestling team finished third at the Southwest Missouri Invitational last weekend. The tournament was UNO's last before the North Central Conference Tournament.

Southern Illinois, ranked second in Division II, won the team title. Central Oklahoma finished second.

"It's a good tournament — one we look forward to every year because of the caliber of competition," said UNO Head Coach Mike Denney.

The Mavs' Mark Manning won the 150-pound title for the second straight year. He defeated Central Oklahoma's Mark Allen in the final.

Mark Weston, 118 pounds, and Mike Braun, 190 pounds, won second place in their weight classes for fourth-rated UNO.

Denney said the meet was a good test for the Mavs in their preparation for the NCC Tourney, to be hosted by UNO on Feb. 15.



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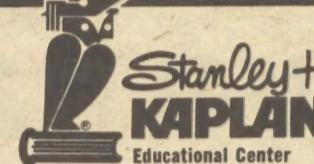
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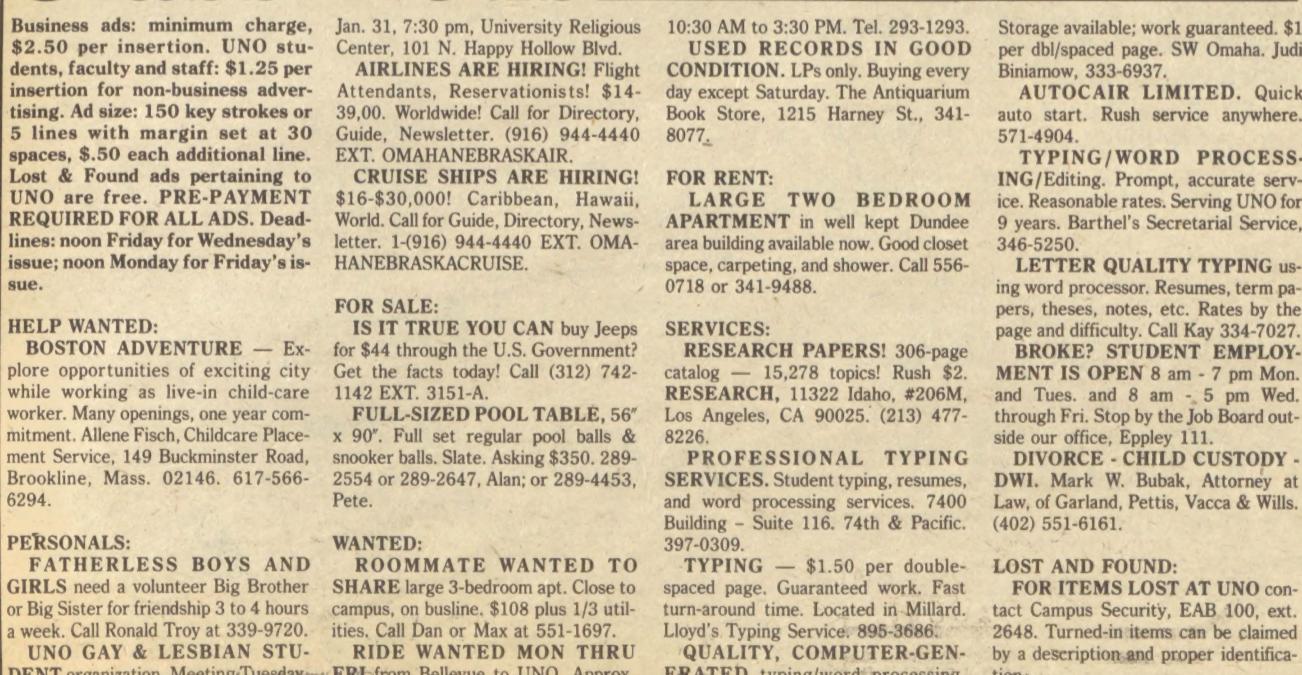


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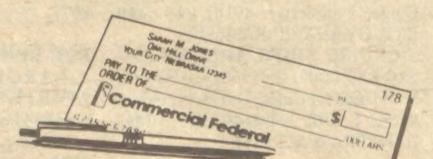


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